

COLNAGHI

Est. 1760



Antoni Clavé

(Barcelona 1913 - 2005 Saint Tropez)

España

1936

mixed media on paper laid on glass
(triptych folding screen)

each panel:

160 x 60 cm.;

63 x 23 5/8 in.

COLNAGHI

Est. 1760



LONDON

NEW YORK

MADRID

COLNAGHI

Est. 1760



LONDON

NEW YORK

MADRID

COLNAGHI

Est. 1760



LONDON

NEW YORK

MADRID

COLNAGHI

Est. 1760



Ñ

A

LONDON

NEW YORK

MADRID

COLNAGHI

Est. 1760

Antoni Clavé was one of the most internationally recognized Spanish artists of the 20th century. He was trained in Barcelona and, after the Spanish civil war, settled in Paris. At the beginning of his career, Clavé stood out as a poster artist and in the thirties he had his first contact with the avant-garde in Paris, which prompted him to become interested in experimenting with materials and collage.

After the war, he developed an interesting career as a poster designer and set designer in Paris and, later, was part of the so-called School of Paris together with Francisco Bores, Picasso, Juan Gris and Antonio Saura.

This screen, *España*, was intended to be one of the objects exhibited in the Spanish Pavilion constructed by the Republican side for the Universal Exhibition in Paris in 1937, although in the end, it was not part of the show.

Designed in a convulsive moment, Clavé divided the screen into three glass plates in which he inserted the three syllables of the word ES-PA-ÑA, and on which he developed a modern version of the traditional Hispanic iconography that had triumphed in Paris since the 19th century. The waving shape of the figures and the colours together build a rhythmic composition, which is visually attractive and in keeping with the poster proposals that Clavé was triumphing in at that time.